

A. G. VANDERBILT HEAD OF FAMILY

Came Into an Estate Estimated
in 1899 at \$70-
300,000

MADE HORSES HIS HOBBY

By a grim coincidence the heads of one of New York city's oldest and wealthiest families have been victims of the world's great tragedies of the sea. Alfred Gwynne Vanderbilt, who was lost in the sinking of the Lusitania, was the son of the largest share of the Vanderbilt millions, and Col. John Jacob Astor, drowned when the Titanic struck an iceberg and was to the bottom of the Atlantic held title to the bulk of the wealth of the Astor family.

Alfred Gwynne Vanderbilt was the second son of Cornelius and Alice Gwynne Vanderbilt. He was a grandson of William Henry Vanderbilt and a great-grandson of Commodore Cornelius Vanderbilt. He was born in this city on October 20, thirty-eight years ago, and was graduated from Yale in 1899.

He came into his fortune by the terms of the will of his father, because of the breach which the marriage of Cornelius Vanderbilt, his elder brother, with Francis Gwynne caused between father and son. Mr. Cornelius was left \$500,000 absolutely and \$1,000,000 in trust and to Alfred Gwynne was bequeathed the bulk of the estate, which at that time (1899) was estimated at \$700,000.

He took possession of the second half of the great fortune in 1912 on the occasion of his thirty-fifth birthday. Prior to this, however, Alfred Gwynne Vanderbilt voluntarily gave to his brother Cornelius, for whom he had a great affection, the sum of \$6,000,000 in order that his share of the estate might be paid as it was received under the will by his other brothers and sisters.

Mr. Vanderbilt was twice married. His first wife was Miss Elsie French, daughter of Francis Ormond French. They were wedded on January 14, 1901, in the Zabiskie Memorial Church, this city, which they had attended together as children, and the match was considered one of the heart.

Mrs. Vanderbilt obtained a divorce from Mr. French in 1905, the court awarding her the custody of their only son, William H.

Mr. Vanderbilt's second wife, who survives him, was Mrs. Margaret Emerson McKim, daughter of Capt. Isaac E. Emerson, a wealthy drug manufacturer of Baltimore. She had obtained a divorce from Smith Hollins McKim of Baltimore in 1910.

The wedding took place at the Registry office in Reigate, a Surrey town twenty miles from London, on December 17, 1911. There are two sons by this union. Alfred Gwynne, Jr., born on September 22, 1912, and George, now about 18 months old.

When a divorce suit instituted by Mr. Vanderbilt's first wife was tried, Justice O'Gorman granting the decree, an "unknown woman" was named as the respondent, the name of "Mrs. Russ" was mentioned at the trial.

Mrs. Mary Agnes Ruiz, formerly an actress, committed suicide in 1905, at Grosvenor street, London, on May 18, 1909.

As a student in college Mr. Vanderbilt was popular, not because he was wealthy, but in spite of his wealth. One of his hobbies was coaching. Although he became an enthusiastic automobile enthusiast as soon as automobiles were introduced in this country he never gave up his great liking for coaching and did not relinquish the sport until it became an art.

At his country place, Oakland Farm, Newport, R. I., one of the show places at that resort, Mr. Vanderbilt had the largest private riding ring in the world, and it was there that his horses were raised for racing and coaching as well as for private horse shows, amateur races and country fairs.

Back in 1904 his coaches, Valiant and Lightning, earned much fame in this city and at Newport. When he drove his coach Meteor from the Berkeley Hotel, Brighton, for his first trial run along the Brighton road in 1905, his party received an ovation along the entire route and Mr. Vanderbilt said that he had had the greatest day of his life. He later established regular daily runs out of London with his famous coach Venture, and people of society much enjoyed the ride.

He was also a prize in the park and tooling class in the coaching Marathon from Hyde Park to Richmond in 1912. He had an English house at Chiswick Camp, near Aldenham, in Surrey.

Mr. Vanderbilt was always intensely interested in horse shows held in this city and was a director of the International Horse Show Association.

Prior to his first marriage he took his place at a desk in the office of the president of the New York Central and started on a campaign to master the intricacies of practical railroad. This was preliminary to entering into the mounds of the road as one of its principal owners.

Mr. Vanderbilt belonged to the Piping Rock, Knickerbocker, Riding, Metropolitan, New York Yacht, Meadow Brook, Brook, Turf and Field, Ardrey, Automobile of America and Yale clubs.

KLEIN THE AUTHOR OF CELEBRATED PLAYS

Was Employed as Reader by
Charles Frohman When He
First Came Here.

Charles Klein, who two years ago returned to England to make his residence there permanently, had been in this country to see his agents, the Selwyns, concerning the production of two new plays. One is a comedy for Julian Eltinge and is called "Cousin Jane." The other is known as "The Guilty Man."

There from a novel by Francis Coppée, he had been back and forth between London and New York several times since the beginning of the war. Through an acquaintance he was drafted into the special police service in England at the beginning of the war.

Mr. Klein was born in London and was a brother of Herman and Manuel Klein. He was 40 and was educated at North London College. He was employed as a play reader by Charles Frohman, when he first came to this country. In 1890 he wrote "A Mile a Minute" and two years later "By Proxy."

A year afterward came "A Paltry Millionaire" and his first important success was "The District Attorney," in which he collaborated with Harrison Gray Dick. He also wrote for Wilton Lackey "The Heart of the Matter," intended to contribute to the success of "The Heart of the Matter." Other plays of this period were "The Captain's Room," "The Hon. John Langley" and "The Auctioneer."

Mr. Klein was more or less serving his apprenticeship at this time. Later came "The Master" for David Warfield, and in 1905 "The Lion and the Mouse," which was played for several seasons. "Daughters of Men," "The Third Degree" and "The Step-Sister" were other plays with timely tendency that followed. "The Next of Kin," "The New Deal" and an adaptation of "The New Deal" were other works of his which met with more or less success.

Mr. Klein married Miss Lillian Gottlieb, who was a play reader at Charles Frohman's theatre with him.

WIFE AND PROBABLE HEIR OF ALFRED G. VANDERBILT



ALFRED G. VANDERBILT JR.

MRS ALFRED G. VANDERBILT

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Telegraphs to State Department Asking That Tug Be
Sent to Scene of Wreck to Search for Her
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Mrs. Alfred G. Vanderbilt, who is at the Vanderbilt Hotel, has been almost prostrated since she learned Friday that a German submarine had sent the Lusitania and hundreds of its passengers to the bottom. Mrs. Vanderbilt received many messages of sympathy yesterday.

The telephone in the Vanderbilt suite was busy all day and night with persons calling up to learn if Mr. Vanderbilt had been heard of. Mrs. Vanderbilt's secretary, Frank Crocker, answered all these messages. Mrs. Vanderbilt was so prostrated that she was unable to receive any callers and every one was referred to Mr. Crocker.

A telegram was sent by Mr. Crocker late yesterday afternoon to the State Department in Washington, requesting that a cable be sent to Ambassador Page asking him to have a tug sent to the vicinity of the wreck to search for Mr. Vanderbilt's body.

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He was educated at Harrow, England, receiving there several prizes for scholarship. In 1902 he received the degree of Ph. D. from the Sheffield Scientific School, and won honors in history and economics.

In 1908 he made a midwinter sleigh journey in Siberia and Mongolia. As an engineer Mr. Bates worked on the New York harbor canal. He was vice-president of the Bates Engineering Company, 71 Broadway, and advisory manager for the Western Engineering Corporation and the Denver Mining Investing Company. He was a member of the General Commission on Water Supply in 1909, appointed by Mayor McCall to report on a \$25,000,000 water tunnel for Manhattan. He wrote extensively on technical subjects.

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MASS MEETING IN LONDON.

Americans There May Ask U. S. to
Take Action.

LONDON, May 8.—Dismay and anger, almost baffling speech, prevail throughout the American colony in London because of the sinking of the Lusitania. Leading Americans here favor holding a great mass meeting and the passing of resolutions calling upon the Government of the United States to protect its citizens travelling by sea.

"We cannot see any escape from the duty of holding Germany to strict accountability," said Harry G. Selfridge, formerly of Chicago, now a leading merchant in London. "In common, I think, with most Americans, I have always approved President Wilson's policy of neutrality, though I had no doubt that 95 per cent. of our people regarded Germany as guilty of precipitating a peculiarly wicked war of conquest."

Even now I wish it were possible to think that we could get over the Lusitania horror without war, but how can we? American opinion, in my judgment, will force President Wilson to address Germany in severe terms."

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Made Enviable Record by
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Hubbard, Lost, Was Going to See War

Won Fame as Editor of "Philistine" and Head of Roycrofters.

PLANNED BATTLE TALES

Elbert Hubbard, author and lecturer, was among the most noted of the American passengers who lost their lives on the Lusitania. He said on the pier just before the liner sailed from this city that he was going abroad to write "war stuff" and get material for future work.

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